

(19)

(11) Publication number: **2000222436 A**

Generated Document

**PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN**(21) Application number: **11027287**(51) Intl. Cl.: **G06F 17/30**(22) Application date: **04.02.99**

(30) Priority:

(43) Date of application  
publication: **11.08.00**(71) Applicant: **FUJITSU LTD**(72) Inventor: **YOSHIDA TAKETOSHI**(84) Designated contracting  
states:

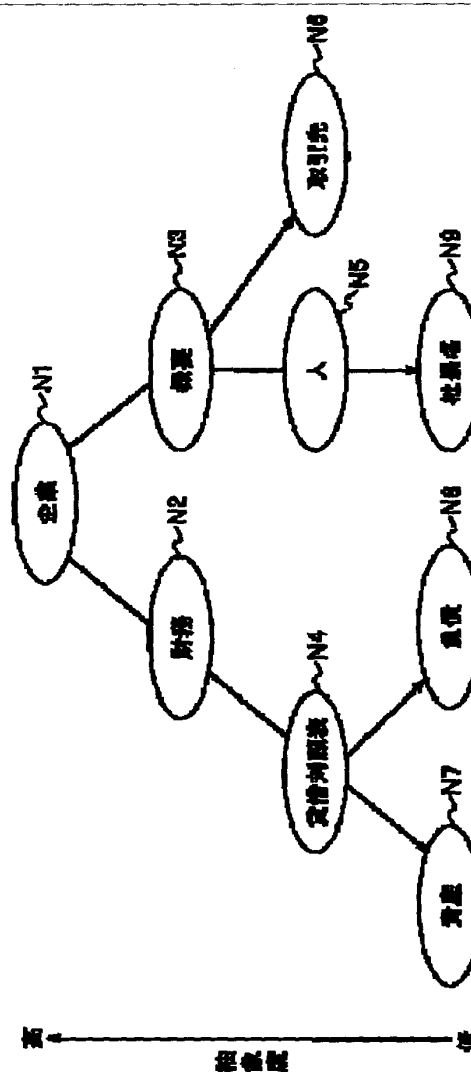
(74) Representative:

**(54) METHOD AND  
DEVICE FOR  
SUPPORTING  
INFORMATION  
RETRIEVAL BY USING  
ONTOLOGY, AND  
STORAGE MEDIUM  
RECORDING  
INFORMATION  
RETRIEVAL SUPPORT  
PROGRAM**

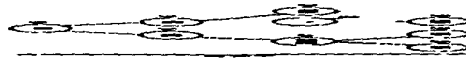
(57) Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To provide an information retrieval supporting method capable of dynamically preparing a database selection menu for selecting a database suited for retrieving information required by a user.

**SOLUTION:** Ontology describing the concept system of information managed by a database as tree structure by arraying the nodes N1 to N9 of information concepts from a higher degree of abstraction to a lower degree of abstraction and a database selection menu for specifying the concept of information required to be retrieved by a user is dynamically generated by presenting concepts registered in the ontology



stepwise from the higher degree of abstraction to the lower degree of abstraction.



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